

From: <bwilcox@unl.edu>
To: A4.A4(ssega1)
Date: 11/29/95 4:50pm
Subject: Chairman's Column Comments

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
CITY OF NEW YORK

Brian Wilcox (bwilcox@unl.edu) writes:

Chairman Hundt,

Keeping fighting the good fight. I'll keep trying to persuade some of you Commission colleagues to join your effort to require a modest recognition of the public interest obligation broadcasters, as public trustees, have towards children.

Brian

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From: <thwhite@ns.cencom.net>
To: A4.A4(ssega1)
Date: 11/29/95 1:41pm
Subject: Chairman's Column Comments

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Thomas H. White (thwhite@cencom.net) writes:

This is in response to a quote in the New York Times of Wednesday, November 29, 1995, concerning High Definition Television.

"Viewers paid about \$75 billion for the current television sets. Should we assume they welcome the extinction of analog broadcasts?"

I am one of the consumers you are talking about and I have no fiscal interest in the television industry other than owning a couple of TV sets. I am also only speaking for myself as a sample of the group of people you are talking about. And, what I have to say is that I would welcome the extinction of analog broadcasts.

As many people in modern society, I own a personal computer, a digitally based product. I own a digital satellite dish so that I may receive optimum broadcast quality. I do not require the best video or audio equipment, but I do have a surround sound stereo TV and have several 4-head Hi-Fi VHS recorders. I believe eventually all of these systems will be joined together in one big digital box. But, for now, even with all of this, I am still unable to get acceptable picture quality in many instances. I am forced to watch movies that have been clipped at the sides because modern TVs do not broadcast in wide-screen format. Only a few movies are released in letter-boxed format for video. My local stations must arrive via analog broadcast because they are not sent by my digital broadcast company. I often end up with blurry images that are of inferior quality. Also, on large screens the lack of scan lines becomes strikingly noticeable and will definitely limit the size of future televisions.

In addition, many people replace their television sets on a regular basis. This would partially negate your assertion that a mass replacement at when analog signals stop. I have had several replacements televisions over the last couple of years. Whether I wanted a TV with a different screen size, I wanted a TV with newer options such as stereo or PIP, or the TV just died, I have made regular purchases of new TVs. If a digital TV becomes available, I will make my next purchase of a TV a digital TV. Therefore, I won't have to lose my investment of my current televisions, but will simply upgrade as part of the normal replacement process.

Thanks for you time.

Thomas H. White

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From: <stoxrus@aol.com>
To: A4.A4(ssegal)
Date: 11/29/95 11:27am
Subject: Chairman's Column Comments

Todd Kauffman (stoxrus@aol.com) writes:

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Dear Sir:

It is up to the parents to have 'their' children watch educational TV, NOT government. When government gets involved in deciding what programs children should watch, we are falling down the 'slippery slope' of communism and socialism which have been proven not to work.

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From: <lsumner@interserf.net>
To: A4.A4(ssegal)
Date: 11/28/95 11:28pm
Subject: Chairman's Column Comments

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Larry D. Sumner (lsumner@interserf.net) writes:

The education effects of TV are those of the short attention span and the entertaining. "Real" education is the result of many hours of hard work. The process is rarely fun but the benefits, results, and rewards make the process worthwhile. We have bought into the idea that education must be fun (i.e. entertaining). Much of what passes for education today is superficial at best. Universities are more interested in "training" people for jobs than in educating them for life. Training produces money, education produces uncertainty and questioning of authority in the business world as well as most of our other institutions. Exposure of large numbers of people to other experiences and cultures that would probably not be experienced otherwise is definitely an accomplishment of TV but on the whole I think that TV is largely irrelevant to education.

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From: <bgoldman@microsys.net>
To: A4.A4(ssegal)
Date: 11/28/95 7:28pm
Subject: Chairman's Column Comments

Robert F. Goldman (bgoldman@microsys.net) writes:

I heartily concur in everything yur column said. All I want to know is why is it taking so long and what can be done about it. Commercial TV really is a "wasteland". Maybe a tradeoff of partial license fees against educational hours would attract some attention?
Regards from K6BD

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